

THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Family and friends of Task Force Military Police.

Hello from the Al Anbar Province of Iraq.

Your Marines and Sailors are proving their skills and professionalism every day as each one of them contribute to the overall mission of enabling freedom for the people of Iraq and eliminating the threat of terrorism. During the month of April Task Force Military Police has provided security for many convoy movements across western Iraq safely, delivering critical supplies and personnel to multiple locations. Many detainees have been properly documented, processed, and detained without incident and your Marines are protecting the walls of Camp Fallujah allowing those inside the wire to walk freely and conduct other business at hand.

I have had the opportunity to see most of the Marines in action this month and it has been a humbling experience seeing the Marines and Sailors perform their mission everyday with motivation and conviction to accomplish the mission. I am very proud of all of them.

Your support is very important to the warriors here. It is amazing everyday to see the mail arrive by the bags. Contact with home makes a positive difference in everyone's day! If you move or have a different phone number during deployment, be sure to remind your service member to let the administrative section know through the 1stSgt. It is important to have accurate information so that we can contact you for any reason.

We appreciate your thoughts and prayers while deployed. Your sacrifice while maintaining the home front is not forgotten and we appreciate all that you do.

LtCol R. A. Roslawski



**1st Battalion, 14th Marines (-) (rein),
4th Marine Division**

May 2006

FROM THE BATTALION SERGEANT MAJOR

Hello families and friends of our Marines and Sailors. We are now settled in and are fully operational in regards to our missions here in Iraq. Your Marine/Sailor is performing wonderfully and all are making this a very productive deployment.

Please continue to write to your loved ones/friends here, for it is the biggest moral booster we can get. Nothing means more to a deployed serviceman/woman than a slice of home via the postal clerk.

The average time it takes to get mail here is about 2 weeks, and the average time to get mail to the states has been about 3 weeks.

A side note on mail; please don't send chocolates or items that melt in the heat. It's getting pretty hot here and the trucks that carry the mail are not air conditioned in the cargo areas. Keep that in mind when sending items in the mail.

Many of your Marines/Sailors have been busy doing physical training on their time off. Don't be surprised if they come back looking a bit different. On the flip side, the chow here is so great, that you may see added pounds in some! It's a toss-up.

If anyone has a newborn since we've deployed, or if one of you ladies is due to give birth, there are certain documents that you must bring to the reserve center in order to enroll your new dependant into the military Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS.)

Bring your ID, the child's birth certificate, and social security number of the child (if applicable) to the nearest DEERS office. The Home Training Center (HTC's) can help you locate the nearest office.

Once your new dependant is enrolled in DEERS, they are eligible and should be enrolled in Tricare. This is the government sponsored medical provider for the military and family members. All of this information is in the websites listed in this newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact your Key Volunteers, or in their absence, contact the Family Readiness Officer of your unit.

As always, your support of your service member is vital to our success and is directly related to the moral of the unit. I can't stress enough how important you are in this deployment and what your encouragement means to all of us here. Thank you very much.

Sergeant Major Enrique Borgzinner

FAMILY READINESS OFFICER

Battalion Family Readiness Comments:

Marine/Sailor families and friends,

Again, it is my pleasure to say hello to all the motivated families and friends of our Marines/Sailors deployed in Iraq. Task Force MP now occupies a piece of Iraq, and continues to perform their duties in a stellar and very professional manner.

Your letters and e-mails continue to enhance the moral in this battalion, so keep up the good work. Take advantage of MotoMail, and any of the other resources that were provided to you by your Family Readiness Officer prior to your Marines and Sailors leaving to Iraq.

All administrative issues and questions should be addressed at your local Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center. We are here to provide answers for all the families of this motivating battalion, so please do not hesitate when questions need to be answered. Have an Outstanding Marine Corps Day.

Semper Fi,

Sergeant Major John K. Bell
2144 Clement Ave.
Alameda, CA 94501

Family Readiness Officers

Battalion Family Readiness Officer

SgtMaj Bell 510-814-1608

Alpha Battery

1stSgt Eggerling 720-847-7859

Bravo Battery

1stSgt Campbell 815-725-7828

Charlie Battery

1stSgt Kirkland 319-233-8731

Charlie Co MP

1stSgt Gomez 937-363-7073

Hotel Battery

GySgt Raso 804-275-7805

Key Volunteer's

Dear Family and Friends of Task Force Military Police,

I trust that e-mail lines are buzzing with activity and cards, letters and care packages are making their way to Iraq in great numbers. It's great to be able to keep in contact with our Marines and Sailors and have a variety of options to show we are thinking about them. Mail-call is always the highlight of the day for those getting something from home!

There are many lists available that give ideas for care packages. For instance, with 90-100 plus degree temperatures, any flavored, powdered drink mix to add to their water would be good. Also, something that doesn't take much time is to write a note on a post card. The touristy- type are fun reminders of home.

Do take advantage of the support you have at home with your Key Volunteer Network. The Key Volunteers can help answer questions you may have and are a good point-of-contact for resources available to you.

It's good to hear about the family and friends in each unit getting together at least once a month to enjoy each others company. They also have opportunity to learn more about a particular subject pertinent to their lives as military family members.

Please let your Key Volunteer Coordinator or myself know about any ideas you may have for information to have printed in this newsletter.

I wish you all well.

Sally Roslawski
Battalion Key Volunteer Coordinator
1/14 task Force Military Police

roslawski@msn.com
cell: (510)719-8211
home: (319)373-0461



THE KVN TEAM



Battalion Key Volunteer Coordinator

Mrs. Sally Roslawski 510-719-8211

HQ's Battery Key Volunteer Coordinator

Mrs Dawn Kemp 707-933-9422

Alpha Battery Key Volunteer Coordinators

Mrs. Stacy Roberds 719 495-1601
Mr. Bob Weesner 970 669-4482

Bravo Battery Key Volunteer Coordinator

Mr. Peter Fichtner 269 445-1600

Charlie Battery Key Volunteer Coordinator

Mrs. Katrina Klauer 608-778-7128
katfuer@gmail.com

Hotel Battery Key Volunteer Coordinator

Mrs. Prudence Milligan 804 262-7445

Charlie Co. MP Key Volunteer Coordinator

Mrs. Joy Becker 937-416-1487

Tango Battery Key Volunteer Coordinator

Mrs. Stephanie Dellacosta
DellaCostaSL.ctr@pendleton.usmc.mil

Key Volunteer Network Mission Statement

The Key Volunteer Network is a part of the Commander's official Family Readiness Program. The role of the KVN is to support and assist the Commander by providing improved communications between the command and the families, by developing a support network among families within the unit, and by establishing a focal point for information and referral to appropriate helping agencies. It is the primary communication link between the commanding officer and the unit's families for mission readiness. Key Volunteers all attend a training session to learn about the resources available to Marine families.

DEERS

The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System is a centralized automated system that captures, edits and maintains sponsor and family member data upon which eligibility for military health care (Tricare), Dental Care, and other benefits are determined. Marines and their immediate dependents are eligible. Enrollment in the SGLI program is now done automatically through DEERS.

Visit the [DEERS Web site](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/swg/owa/webguard.login?appl=9012&rule=02)- this is the quick and easy way to update your information. The best time to update is during non-peak hours!
<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/swg/owa/webguard.login?appl=9012&rule=02>

L.I.N.K.S

L.I.N.K.S is now available online. To learn more about it go to:

<http://www.usmc-mccs.org/MCFTB/LINKS/online.cfm>

To access L.I.N.K.S. Online go to:

<http://www.marinenet.usmc.mil/>

Log in using your social security number and date of birth. Go to the Course Catalog and click on Marine Corps Training Courses. Click on L.I.N.K.S. and then enroll in the course. Once enrolled you will need to go to "My Account" and replace your Marine's name with yours as the user. Finally, launch the course. Now your journey begins!

Emergencies

When our Marines get activated, it is of major concern that we are able to communicate with them if an emergency arises.

In case of an emergency (death or hospitalization of an immediate family member) contact the local Red Cross (<http://www.redcross.org>).

You will need to have your Marine's:

Social Security Number

Name

Unit's Name

Location of the Unit

Nature of emergency or message

The Red Cross will get the message to the Marine as soon as possible.

Email: info@arcriohondo.org

Website: <http://www.arcriohondo.org>

With a Military ID card you are eligible to shop at the...

Exchange

The Exchange is similar to a department store. Savings are plentiful and you pay no taxes!!!

Commissary

The commissary is a non-profit grocery store. All items are sold at cost plus a 5% surcharge (used to pay operating cost, the baggers work for tips so don't forget them).

COMMISSARIES

<http://www.commissaries.com/>



Military One Source

Military One Source is a referral service to help Marine families find information and services for any part of the United States. Translators are available.

www.mccsonesource.com

User ID: Marines

Password: Semper Fi

or

(800) 869-0278



Headquarters Battery

Hello to friends and families of the deployed Marines from HQ Battery,

As of 2 April 2006, all the Marines from HQ Battery have arrived in Camp Fallujah, Iraq! The flight from the U.S. traveled from March Air Force Base (Riverside, CA) to Bangor, Maine, then to Shannon, Ireland, and then to Kuwait City International Airport. Flying for Almost 23 hours straight (with one-hour refueling stops and crew changes) made for some long travel and jet lag. Nevertheless, we then convoyed to Camp Victory, Kuwait and the next day we flew to Taqaddam, Iraq via C-130. Finally, thanks to convoys provided by 5/14 (our predecessors) and some helicopter flights, HQ Battery was finally in place here at Camp Fallujah.

Many of the Marines and sailors are working within their section at their Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) like administration, intelligence, operations, logistics, motor transport, supply, medical, and communications. Many of the Marines work on the day shift, some have the night watch. Some are working with sister batteries, Hotel Battery from Richmond, VA, and with Bravo Battery from Joliet, IL doing force protection and convoy support. No matter the MOS and whom we're supporting, the key factor is that they are all trained and prepared and working hard completing the mission at hand. The motivation and morale is generally high. They actually get to make a difference over here and see that all the effort they've put forth over the past few months (years for some) has finally paid off!

Just like you all back home, we miss our families and friends. We're doing a good job of banding together here, but we still love to hear from everyone back home. Mail call around here is a daily occasion, much anticipated by all. In the day and age of cell phones and emails, there's still nothing better than a printed or hand-written letter and once in a while a "care package." I encourage you to check into Motomail, which is a great way to communicate. You use your computer and the internet to send email, but here the Post Office prints it out into a sealed envelope and we receive the letter. If you're not sure how it works, you too can band together and share tips, or ask the Key Volunteer Network for some pointers.

Finally, I'd like to recognize the Marines who were promoted on April 1, 2006. Congratulations to the following:

MSgt Mizgorski, Sgt Galvan, Sgt Riddle, Sgt Rubio, Cpl Castleberry, Cpl Evans, Cpl Kuntz, Cpl Lepe, Cpl Tran, LCpl Dao, LCpl Edwards (meritorious)

From Camp Fallujah, Iraq... Semper Fidelis (always faithful)

Maj. Erik van Weezendonk
HQ Battery Commanding Officer

Alpha Battery

Family, Spouses, Loved Ones,

We finally made it. The countdown can begin. After three long "civilian" flights, interrupted by a 13 hour crew delay in Bangor, Maine, an over night stay in Kuwait, a C-130 flight into IRAQ, followed by various modes of transportation to each platoons final destination, we have arrived.

During this sequence of events, the Marines conducted themselves in a superb manner, and made the Marine Corps proud. I know they were happy to finally get through the training, and the waiting phase, to get this show on the road.

At this time, each platoon has completed their "RIP" (relief in place) with 5/14, and the Transfer of Authority to 1/14 was on 27 March.

As we begin to establish our "battle rhythm" and settle into a fairly stable routine, we must all remember that over our first three months, three very important holidays will pass by: Easter, Mother's Day, and Father's Day. While we can't be together during these special times, the Marines will always remember each and every one of you.

The mail volume has been tremendous, and I can assure you it far outweighs any other company. Keep up the great work! It's taking on average about 8 days to reach your favorite Marine, and it is as well appreciated.

The Chow halls have been, and continue to be fantastic. Rest assured, your Marine is well fed and their biggest concern in this area will be keeping their weight down.

Always liking to end on a bright note, we automatically get a free hour closer to coming home with daylight savings time this weekend. For those of you planning, we will be home well before we have to give it back!

Semper Fi,

Major Deliberto
Commanding Officer

Bravo Battery

1 OF 2

Families,

A lot has transpired since we left the United States, yet I'm sure many of you are probably feeling left in the dark regarding either a lack of communication or limited information. I would like to start my letter to you by saying this is by nature and as planned. Operational security is a big issue out here, and can put Marines, sailors, soldiers, and even you at risk which is why the information we pass sometimes may sound cryptic. Please don't feel anxious when our communications sound like we are dancing around issues or avoiding answering specific questions. I find, at times, it difficult to communicate to my family while attempting to carry on conversation using broad generalities.

As many of you already know, Major Dragan had to return to the United States due to illness within his family. We all send our best wishes and continue to keep them in our minds, hearts, and prayers. In his absence, I have taken command and would like to take a few seconds to introduce myself. My name is Major Matthew Fichtner; you may already have been in contact with my father, Pete Fichtner, the unit's key volunteer coordinator. I have served a total of eleven years both active and reserve and have been with Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Marines for about four-and-a-half years. Prior to assuming command I served as the Force Protection Company's executive officer. Though I don't want to dwell on myself too long, I do want to let you know that I very much believe in the mission we are currently assigned to perform. As the commanding officer, my responsibilities are to fulfill this mission, and to bring your Marines and sailors home as safely as possible. I am dedicated to achieving both tasks to the utmost of my abilities.

Bravo Battery

2 OF 2

As I wrote earlier, a lot has happened to the Company during the past few weeks. Force Protection Company has officially arrived at Camp Fallujah and taken over the full responsibilities of our mission. I hope you've spoken with, or received mail or email from your Marine or sailor, I would expect they have already admitted in their communications to working extremely hard. This is true, as in order to accomplish our mission, each of us works 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with little to no breaks. The company has performed superbly and I'm proud, as each of you should be, of each and every one of your Marines and sailors.

I'm sure you may also have heard that recently we have had some casualties. Unfortunately, this also is true, but let me preface by saying that all of the Marines involved are ok, and that all of the Marines have returned to duty except for one who was returned to the United States for recovery. Before you attempt to contact your Marine or Sailor please understand that the Marines involved have already contacted their respective families and informed them of their injuries. As the incident is operation specific, I must refrain from divulging additional information, as will your Marine or Sailor. I can tell you that the remainder of the company remains in good spirits, and are even more focused than ever on our mission at hand.

Before I close, I'd like to request that you continue to send correspondence to the Marines and Sailors of the company. It is essential that the Marines continue to maintain their contacts with their homes and loved ones. I'm not sure I would ever be able to convey in words the boost in morale obtained by the receipt of a simple letter or care package in the mail. Your support will ensure the morale and fighting spirit of the company.

As my wife likes to end her correspondences, we miss you and may God bless us all.

Major Matthew Fichtner

C MP Company

Greetings from Iraq, Charlie Company is currently performing missions on a couple of different camps of Camp Fallujah and Al Asad. The Marines are doing well and everyone is healthy. We will continually update the mailing addresses, which change sometimes when a platoon moves to another area due to a new mission. This first month has been getting settled and up to speed with our area and mission, which always takes sometime and flexibility before a unit gets settled in place. As always, Military Police are a force multiplier, and we have been on the frontlines in the war on terror in support of the Marine Expeditionary Force, providing force protection.

Third Platoon and Headquarters Platoon are located on Al Asad with First and Second Platoons currently at Camp Fallujah. CID is located at Camp Fallujah and Al Asad, as well performing a very robust schedule. Capt Schultz is Executive Officer, and the Platoon Commanders are Captain Fountain for First Platoon, Captain Gavigan for Second Platoon, and Gunnery Sergeant Stewart for Third Platoon. At times, we are subject to communications restrictions, which inhibit phone and email, so please be patient with your Marines if you haven't heard from them for a couple of days. If there are any questions, please address them to myself at michael.jylkka@cemnf-wiraq.usmc.mil

Semper Fidelis

Captain Michael Jylkka
MP Company C, 1/14, Task Force MP
Company Commander

Hotel Battery

Hotel Battery update for May 2006

As of 12 April 2006, the majority of the Marines and sailors of Hotel Battery have been living and working in Al Anbar Province, Iraq for almost 3 weeks. We have been very busy with traveling from 29 Palms to Iraq, getting settled into our new living spaces, learning our mission and turning over equipment from the unit we relieved, and then beginning operations on our own.

The first few days were spent getting to know the Marines and sailors we were soon to replace, learning how they executed their missions and how to properly operate all the equipment we were taking over. Some of this turnover was conducted in a classroom but most was conducted out on the road. At first, just Vehicle Commanders rode along, then more and more Marines and sailors from Hotel joined. The final night before the turnover was complete, we filled almost all of the seats and just one or two from the previous company rode along to give advice. By that day, we were very confident in our abilities, primarily because the Marines and sailors of Hotel are quick learners and they arrived in Iraq very well trained and with excellent results in their performance of duties. I have been most impressed with the young NCOs and Marines. They have truly stepped up to the plate and they are the reason why we are doing so well now.

Living conditions here in Iraq are not bad compared to some of the more desolate places that Marines live. We live in two large buildings with generators for power and air conditioning in each room. All our vehicles are parked right next to the buildings, easy to access for maintenance and missions. We have our own gym in tents behind the buildings and a chow hall a few hundred meters down the road. The battalion motor transport mechanics also live and work right next door so when a vehicle does break down, it's fixed almost immediately. There are two other larger chow halls on the base and we have several buses that take Marines to the laundry service, Marine Corps exchange or internet café and phone center.

I know you are very proud of your Marines and sailors, as am I. They are Great Americans and I am still thankful and humbled to be associated with them every day. I know they miss you and their lives back in the States, but I also know they are proud of themselves and they love what they do, and yes, once we return home, they will miss all this and the deep bonds of friendship they have built. We have many Marines from many different units now working as part of the Hotel Battery family, but they have been welcomed and are difficult to distinguish from those who have been with Hotel for years. Please continue to email, write, send MotoMail and care packages. Even in the age of email, there is something special about receiving a hand-written letter or package from home.

Thank you for your continued support from home!

Major Chris Warnke, USMC
Commanding Officer
Hotel Battery, 3/14
Task Force MP
I MEF (FWD)

FROM THE BATTALION EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Families,

I will take a topic of interest monthly and try to explain it. This month we'll discuss your Marine's core pay and entitlements. Your Marine receives several types of pay and entitlements, each of which is designed to cover different expenses in life. The core pay is **Base Pay** which is meant to cover a Marine family's living expenses and consists of usually 60 to 70% of a married Marine's total compensation. The second is **Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)**. This pay is meant to cover the typical rent in a given geographic area, so this pay would be different from Denver to the Bay Area or even Iowa. Additionally, there are nine very costly areas in the US that rate a special housing allowance, one of them being the Bay Area. BAH requires a rental contract or mortgage statement to initiate, but if the Marine is married, he/she is entitled to BAH where the spouse is living/located. The third is **Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)**. BAS is intended to cover the food requirements for the Marine only and is normally recovered when messing is available. However, due to OIF/OEF, congress has decided to allow BAS to continue during deployment.

Currently, all of us are receiving certain special pays associated with the deployment. The first is **Family Separation Allowance (FSA)**. This pay is to cover the additional expenses associated with only one spouse being at home. The second and third are **Hostile Fire Pay** and **Hardship Duty Location Pay**. These pays are the government's way to partially offset the risks we are taking in Iraq. Finally, we all receive the **Combat Tax Exclusion**. This is significant, as normally only BAH and BAS are non taxable. The Combat Tax Exclusion covers every Marine's pay except for high ranking officers that make more than the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. The Combat Tax Exclusion was a congressional mandate and should be viewed as the American people's recognition of what we provide when we're on combat duty and was a special incentive created after 911. Everyone's pay has been adjusted for all these allowances.

In future months, I plan to discuss topics of what your Marine actually does out here like detentions, police transition teams and force protection. Finally, near the end of the deployment, I'll address the retirement system and its entitlements. If you have any questions ask your Marine to quiz Major Rapp and make an article. We are here to serve you and you have the command's gratitude in supporting your son or daughter or husband or wife's service. God bless you all.

Maj Steve Rapp
Task Force MP XO

HOTEL BATTERY SANDSTORM PICS



Battalion Chaplain

From Chaplain Reed,
This first month has, in many ways gone by quite quickly. It took several days for all of us to finally arrive at Camp Fallujah, and then to find our way to various duty stations. Even while everyone was finding their spot, the work began and life began to take on what we call a "Battle Rhythm". It has been an amazing to watch the way your Marines and Sailors have taken charge of the tasks at hand. They work with a confidence and competence which belies that short duration of our time here.

I am pleased to report that I see many Task Force MP Marines at weekly chapel services and several others attend the services I offer for those who are either working or sleeping (due to late nights working) during normal chapel hours. I have had the joy of praying with our Marines before the go out on various missions and those times when I could not be their, prayers are offered by the Marines.

You are remembered often in the prayers of those who are here in Iraq. One thought that I have heard, frequently, the fact that we know that we are well and healthy here, while our families at home always wonder about our safety and health. In that respect, I suppose that we do have a better lot in this experience. You also need to know that your Marines and sailors share similar concerns about you. Now I don't want to encourage a culture of "mutual worry", but it is good to know that we share many of the same thoughts and concerns. One of the main ways that those concerns can be addressed is through mail and the occasional phone call home. Even a simple note or card is a great morale boost and talking to a loved one is one of those sweet moments of contact that is greatly appreciated. Send those cards and letters and drop phone card in one of them. I guarantee that you will find it to be a wonderful investment when you get that phone call from Iraq.

Know that your Marines and sailors are doing well and that they have my support and prayers. You also remain there as well and I pray every blessing for you.

Chaplain Craig Reed
Battalion Chaplain



Easter Sunrise service in Camp Fallujah



Patriotism on the move



Chaplain Reed in a CH-53 helicopter



1stSgt Walters celebrating his 97th birthday



The only friends he had in the whole world



He ate it without using his hands.....



Our Corpsmen rendering honors at Colors



HM1 League and HM2 Gaborni with flag



Promotion of Msgt Kipp on the roof